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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/556,517	04/21/2000	Toshihiro Shima	Q58755	7141

7590 01/29/2003

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EXAMINER

WALLERSON, MARK E

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2622

DATE MAILED: 01/29/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/556,517

Applicant(s)

Shima

Examiner

Mark Wallerson

Art Unit

2622



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Nov 12, 2002
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 16-23, 25-27, and 86-97 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 21-23, 26, 27, 95, and 96 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 16, 19, 20, 25, 86-94, and 97 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 17 and 18 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☒ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- *See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 6) ☐ Other:

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Part III DETAILED ACTION

Notice to Applicant(s)

1. This action is responsive to the following communications: amendment filed on 10/18/2002.

2. This application has been reconsidered. Claims 16-23, 25-27, and 86-97 are pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. The indicated allowability of claims 86-94 and 97 is withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Kim. Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371© of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

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4. Claims 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, and 94 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kim et al (Kim) (U. S. 6,473,788).

With respect to claims 86, 87, 88, 91, and 92, Kim discloses a local router (7) adapted to make accessible to a network (15) one or more connected printers (11), comprising means for connecting to an IP addressed network and receiving messages addressed to network addresses (column 3, lines 52-67); means for making a selection of the connected printer (which reads on routing IP packets intended for devices on the LAN to the LAN (column 3, lines 63-67); transferring data to the connected printer (column 3, lines 63-67), wherein the printer interface (14) is not an IP-addressed connection (the NIB is not an IP addressed connection).

With respect to claims 89, 90, 93 and 94, Kim discloses using the same IP address and different port (socket) numbers and packet identifiers (column 8, lines 38-49)

5. Claims 16, 19, 20, 25, and 97 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Joubert et al (hereinafter referred to as Joubert) (U. S. 6,101,616).

With respect to claims 16, 19, 20, 25, and 97, Joubert discloses a local router (13) comprising means for connecting to a communications network (12) and has a plurality of IP addresses (IP1, IP2, IPC6) representing a plurality of locations (5-9) on the network (12) and which responds to a communications message (data package) addressed to any of the plural IP addresses (column 5, line 61 to column 6, line 9), and means for transferring the data addressed to

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any of the IP addressees to a plurality of destinations and selects destinations based on the IP addresses (column 6, lines 1-41).

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 17 and 18 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.
7. Claims 21-23, 26 and 27 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

8. Applicant's arguments filed 10/18/2002 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

Applicant submits that Joubert does not disclose network communication means which can connect to a communication network and has a plurality of addresses representing a plurality of locations on the network. The Examiner respectfully disagrees.

Joubert clearly discloses [a router] (13) comprising obvious means for connecting to a network (12), and which **HAS** (column 5, line 63) a plurality of IP addresses representing a plurality of locations on the network (column 5, lines 61-67). Applicant's argument that "it is not technically accurate to say that router 13 "has" three IP addresses" is baffling. This is clearly depicted in the specification and in figure 1.

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9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark Wallerson whose telephone number is (703) 305-8581.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, DC 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314 (for formal communications intended for entry)

(for informal or draft communications, such as proposed amendments to be discussed at an interview; please label such communications "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

or hand-carried to:

Crystal Park Two

2121 Crystal Drive

Arlington, VA.

Sixth Floor (Receptionist)

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MARK WALLERSON
PRIMARY EXAMINER

MARK WALLERSON